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Draft report

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Addendum

Coordination questions: New Partnership for Africa's Development

(*Item 4 (b)*)

United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

1. At its 4th meeting, on 3 June 2014, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) (E/AC.51/2014/3).

2. The Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation to the Special Adviser on Africa for the quality of his presentation and commended him on the comprehensiveness of the report. They voiced support for the work of the Office, in particular in strengthening the coherence and coordination of United Nations system support for NEPAD, and welcomed the progress achieved to date.

4. Delegations reaffirmed the priority of Africa in the global agenda and reiterated the importance of stepping up United Nations system support for all sectoral priorities of the Organization's work on Africa. They also reaffirmed their support for NEPAD and its initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme and the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, and for the Sustainable Energy for All initiative and the African Peer Review Mechanism. Support was also expressed for the monitoring mechanism to review commitments made towards Africa's development, as established in resolution 66/293.

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5. While expressing appreciation for the significant achievements with regard to economic, social and political issues, delegations highlighted the importance of fostering inclusive growth and sustainable development in Africa. They emphasized the importance of infrastructure development, agriculture development and food security, climate change adaptation and resilience, sanitation, industrialization and value addition, economic diversification, the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, job creation, effective management of urbanization processes, poverty eradication and good governance, peace and security for the transformation of Africa. It was recalled that 2014 was the Year of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa and a call was made to further fine-tune a global mechanism to deal with food security.

6. Delegations noted the dynamic nature of African development priorities, as encapsulated in the African Union Commission Strategic Plan 2014-2017, the NEPAD Strategic Plan 2014-2017 and the forthcoming African Union Agenda 2063, saying that there was a need to exert flexibility in aligning United Nations system support with current and emerging African development priorities.

7. Delegations emphasized the need to align the post-2015 development agenda with the priorities of Africa, as articulated in the recently adopted African common position on the post-2015 development agenda. They also emphasized the need to continue to strengthen coherence and coordination within the United Nations system in support of African development, in particular with the continuing consultations on the post-2015 development agenda. In that regard, some delegations stressed the need to closely coordinate that process with the sustainable development goals, as mandated in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and to ensure that sustainable development was central to the post-2015 development agenda.

8. Delegations stressed the importance of the nexus between peace, security and development and welcomed the global initiatives in support of the development of Africa, including the Tokyo International Conference on African Development process and its recently adopted Yokohama Action Plan 2013-2017, in addition to other bilateral strategic partnerships with Africa. Delegations noted that there was a need, in supporting the development of Africa, also to give due consideration to the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries.

9. Delegations underscored the need to strengthen regional and subregional integration mechanisms. A view was expressed that the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa and its nine clusters should be strengthened with adequate financial and human resources in order to enhance the implementation of cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union Commission and improve the coordination of United Nations system support for NEPAD at the regional level.

Conclusions and recommendations

10. **The Committee welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for NEPAD (E/AC.51/2014/3) and recommended that the General Assembly endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 112 to 119 of the report.**

11. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to continue to include, in his future reports, detailed information relating to the possible outcomes of the achievements of NEPAD targets.

12. The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly reiterate its request to the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to promote greater coherence in their work in support of NEPAD, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, and called upon the United Nations system to continue to mainstream the special needs of Africa in all its normative and operational activities, including the financing of programmes and projects, resource mobilization and humanitarian assistance.

13. The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly request the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to coordinate closely with the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, as the technical body of the African Union, and other structures of the African Union Commission and the Partnership in order to further strengthen the implementation of the African Union/NEPAD African Action Plan 2010-2015.

14. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly emphasize the need for the organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies to continue to fully take into account the views, comments and/or input of the African Union and other regional and subregional mechanisms in their policy formulation and decision-making, mainly in the areas of mediation, conflict prevention and peace and security.

15. The Committee also recommended that the reports of the Secretary-General on NEPAD continue to include information not only on seminars, workshops and meetings but also on other tangible actions and results in respect of United Nations system support for projects of the Partnership throughout Africa, while stressing that future reports should further enhance the focus on the impact, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, of the activities implemented by entities of the United Nations system in support of the Partnership, with regard to the resources.

16. The Committee recognized the important role played by the development of hard infrastructure in Africa, in particular energy, railways and highways, and recommended that the General Assembly reiterate its request to the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize United Nations system support in that area, in particular for the initiatives of the regional economic communities.

17. The Committee emphasized the need for timely implementation of the mandate relating to the monitoring mechanism and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports provide detailed information on the status of the implementation of the mandate in that regard.